

Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship

NEWSLETTER

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Joseph B. Fitch, Editor

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A BEGINNING

This issue of The Newsletter is our first. There are no pictures simply because we have none ready, and although one picture is often worth a thousand words, they will have to wait for subsequent issues.

We hope to print more news too, and as our work grows, we will do so.

Also, let us keep in mind that our basic inquiries into psychical phenomena are related to our religious faith. For this reason, we want to report news related to all three areas of our concerns—prayer, healing and survival. Perhaps by experimenting with several issues, we can find the format which is most appealing. This is a beginning venture.

FORD TAPE WORK CONTINUES

Did you send Mary Sharp a tape recording of any material on Arthur Ford? If so, bear in mind that transcripts are being made and will be sent to you before long. If not, and you have one from which a script can be made, Mrs. Sharp will be happy to receive it and make a script in exchange. Please tell her what was verified in the tape. She is a busy lady these days, but is doing a yeoman's service for SFF. Send tapes and data to

Mrs. Mary Sharp
Apt. B. Villa Tanglewood
202 Ruelle
San Antonio, Texas 78209

You will get a reply.

YOUTH COMMITTEE FORMED

President William Rauscher has announced the appointment of Pat and Bud Hayes, members of Christ the King Lutheran Church, Miami, Florida and Boston's newest citizen, Rev. Sam
(continued bottom of next column)

RESEARCH PROGRAM DEVELOPING

A program of research is developing as a result of the responses to the original Invitation to Research. Under the diligent guidance of Mrs. Mary Sharp, San Antonio, Texas Chairman of the SFF Research Committee, the five categories of interest have been chosen by those members who responded. They are listed here together with the sub-committee chairmen:

Meditative, Inspirational, Revelational
Chairman, The Rev. Robert J. Lewis

Prayer-Healing
Chairman, The Rev. Alex Holmes

General ESP--Psychical
Chairman, to be named

Survival
Chairman, Mr. Cyril T. Tucker

Psychokinetic Phenomena
Chairman, Mr. Frank Collins

This growing research program, made possible by the Executive Council's approval May 12, has been called to the attention of Area Chairmen, and will be passed along also to chairmen of Registered Study Groups. Some of those members who responded to the original invitation have already heard from sub-committee chairmen; others will receive word at a later date. There will be by December 15 an announcement to Area Chairmen and chairmen of Registered Study Groups (as well as in Gate Way) calling for research proposals which will be due February 15th.

Reinke, as the first member of a newly formed Youth Committee. Tentative plans for a Youth Committee at next Spring's Joliet Conference are under consideration.

NEWLY ORGANIZED AREA GROUPS

As SFF expansion continues, new Area Groups or Chapters (can you think of a better title) are formed. Some older areas have new chairmen. If you live within fifty miles, even farther, and want to be notified of programs in these areas, write these new chairmen in case they do not have your name.

Arizona Area

The Rev. Paul Wilkinson
1601 West Indian School Road
Phoenix, Ariz. 85015

California

Los Angeles Metropolitan Area
The Rev. Howard Carey
1357 Kent Place
Glendale, Calif. 91205

San Diego Area
The Rev. G. Leslie Palmer
2019 Fort Stockton Drive
San Diego, Calif. 92103

Indiana

East Central Area
Mr. Sheldon Blazier
5400 Kilgore Ave., #21
Muncie, Indiana 47304

Kansas

Wichita Area
Rev. Forrest B. Sharkey
1017 N. Dellrose
Wichita, Kan. 67208

Massachusetts

Eastern Area
Mrs. Robert Smith
7 Broads Avenue
South Natick, Mass. 01760

New York

Hudson Valley Area
Rev. Joseph F. Sefl
RFD 2, Box 8, Kings Highway
Warwick, N. Y. 10990

Pennsylvania

Harrisburg-Middletown Area
Joseph G. Saxon, M.D.
1511 N. Front St.
Harrisburg, Pa. 17102

Ohio

Akron-Canton Area
David Jones
1225 28th St., N.E.
Canton, Ohio 44714

Dayton-Springfield Area
The Rev. Harold N. Tollefson
115 W. North St.,
West Milton, Ohio 45385

Defiance Area
L. Richard Batzler, PhD
718½ S. Clinton St.,
Defiance, Ohio 43512

Washington State

Mr. J. L. Boze
Boze Insurance Agency, Inc.
414 St. Helens Avenue
Tacoma, Washington 98402

Wisconsin Area

The Rev. and Mrs. John H. Alexander
16335 Luella Drive
Brookfield, Wis. 53005

OTHER CHANGES

Rev. Richard Newby, Muncie, Indiana Chairman, has moved to Wichita, Kansas to become Pastor of the University Friends Meeting. He is succeeded, as announced, by Mr. Sheldon Blazier.

Other areas in which we hope to have new chairmen before long are:

Hagerstown, Md.
Miami, Fla.
Pittsburg, Pa.
Northern New Jersey
Cleveland, Ohio

New Chairmen and newly organized area groups will be announced in subsequent issues of our publications.

GOOD BOOKS:

Harold G. Hopper, Clifton, N.J., member sent us these lines he composed which now appear in our library:
"I count good books among my better friends,
The wisdom of the ages they unfold;
I share the thoughts of sages of the past,
And feel I have unearthed a vein of gold."

SUMMER AREA NEWS

Chicago:

Sponsored appearances of Dr. John Aiken and Rev. Alex Holmes in recent weeks. Dr. Aiken spoke in four locations; Rev. Holmes, exponent of the churches ministry of healing, held a teaching and healing service at First Methodist Church, La-Grange.

Akron-Canton:

David Jones succeeded Ralph Lehman as Chairman, May 25. Mr. Herb Beyer, psychometrist from Cleveland, presented the program. Questionnaire given out about interests and to encourage formation of new study groups. Next meeting August 24; E. W. Dykes chosen secretary and reporter.

Baltimore:

Tenth Anniversary of New Life Clinic, Mt. Washington Methodist Church was celebrated by having Dr. Alfred Price, D.D. of St. Stephen's Church, Philadelphia, Pa. bring a series of messages on the mission of Christian Healing.

Dayton-Springfield:

New study group formed at West Milton, Ohio, uses Paul Higgin's Encountering The Unseen as a study base, meets bi-weekly.

S. E. Florida:

Mrs. Duane Hull, faithful Miami secretary, is moving to Ohio, and Rev. T. N. Tiemeyer, retiring chairman, will succeed her; new chairman to be appointed soon.

Hudson Valley, N. Y.:

May and June meetings with a "Teen S.F.F. Group" were held in the Bloomington Manse where Rev. Samuel Reinke has served; he is moving to Boston, however, to return to graduate school.

E. Massachusetts:

Fifty-two members comprise this steady Area Group which has had regular meetings. Use of The Bible As Psychic History and various tape recordings keep interest flowing. A branch SFF library there now has 241 titles in it for area use.

Philadelphia-S. Jersey:

Last year's successful monthly lecture-ship series has prompted another soon to be announced by The Rev. Robert J. Lewis, chairman, of Haddon Heights, New Jersey.

Portland Ore.--Vancouver, Wash.:

Rev. Archie Matson, Idlewild, Calif., long time friend and SFF leader, wound up a nation-wide speaking tour here in June. Rev. Ira Gillet is chairman.

NEWS NOTES:

We extend a warm welcome to Helen Church, Chicago, Illinois, our newest Life member... We are sorry to report the deaths of Archie Morgan, brother of Cecil L. Morgan, May 21, and that of Frank Edwards, Indianapolis, author of UFO books and student of psychic phenomena, June 23....Marjorie Grant reports that Rev. James Kinnear spoke at the annual meeting of the New York A.R.E. group....The Quaker Life, monthly of the Friends United Meeting, has in its June and July issues a series of two articles by Catherine Cain McCracken, and the Rev. Harold M. Tollefson, the latter our Dayton-Springfield chairman...Walter Dwyer's Handbook For Spiritual Healing is again available at SFF Book Service for \$1.00...We'd like to correct the spelling of Rev. G.W. Gibbs name, the fine singer at the Ford Luncheon at the close of the Oak Park Conference....Speaking of the Conference, someone bought three books and walked away leaving them in a shopping bag. We'd like to send them to the owner....The Church's Fellowship For Psychical and Spiritual Studies held its first youth congress in London in June and considered it a success with eighty present....Also, in a July 22nd letter from Miss Oonah Robertson, Honorary Publicity Officer for the C.F.P.S.S., we learn that Miss Alice White, secretary of the English group, suffered a stroke just a few days previous....The Executive Director of SFF has spoken several times this year to Chicago groups and churches....A series of summer Carillon Recitals and Sunset Vespers are held Sunday evenings through Sept. 3 at Luray, Virginia. Charles Chapman, SFF member, is Carillonneur. Concerts at other hours and days are held through November 14A new type catalog of the Lending Library will be ready about September 30 and will be sent to regular library users. After that date others may request a copy. We are unable yet to catalog our reference section....Couples who are members may have books for both husband and wife at the same time, two apiece...The Rev. Arthur Ford makes steady recovery in Philadelphia but must curtail his activities....Vice-President Ross Sweeny has moved from Lombard to River-

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side, Illinois; the Rev. George Wright, Library Committee Chairman, has moved from Cicero to Chicago. Both are pastors of the Methodist Church...Rev. and Mrs. Edmond G. Dyett formerly of Evanston, have purchased a home in Arlington, Vermont, 05250.....

MORE SITTINGS WITH ARTHUR FORD

The Rev. Arthur Ford expressed his gratitude for the bound volume of the record of sittings (or excerpts from sittings) presented to him as a surprise gift, May 13. The gold title read Sittings With Arthur Ford. However, a number of persons could not prepare their copy on the short notice we gave about it. Therefore, we want to include everyone who will type out such a record single space on regular 8½ by 11"---letter size---white paper, 1½" margins, and make a second volume for him. November 15 is the deadline. When you mail yours, please do not fold it, but send it in a large catalog envelope addressed to The Arthur Ford Volume, Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship, 800 Custer, Suite #1, Evanston, Illinois, 60202. We want to call it by a similar title, More Sittings With Arthur Ford. While he will know about this second effort, it can be done only if you send in your record, a way of expressing our gratitude to one of our dear friends.

REGISTRATION OF STUDY GROUPS

Many fine study groups have been meeting in behalf of SFF interests for several years, others for only a brief period. Some have been formed in relation to Area Chapters (Groups); some have been formed in churches or homes (or elsewhere) and are unrelated to Area work since there may be none near them. Because of the nature of their association, which is a voluntary one, these groups are often not in touch with us and would appreciate an assist from time to time.

Now that new study materials are in the process of formation, and an opportunity for study groups to participate in some phase of our research is being made possible, it is important to call attention to the registration of all kinds of

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study groups. Portions of the blossoming research program will be carried on by individuals who responded to the original invitation to research, but much more is going to be offered to study groups in the future. Your Executive Director has received many letters requesting assistance of one kind or another, and insofar as SFF study groups register with us, he will be able to route suggestions, materials and aids to them as they become available.

Therefore, write us and request a Study Group Registration Blank. Do it right away so we can move on to other things.

A MOST IMPORTANT WORK

Soon after we moved to our new location, a letter came from Mr. Allen Wilson, of Washington, D.C. His words sound so good we want to share many of them with you:

"I have been a member of the Fellowship for a number of years, and have derived great intellectual and spiritual profit from it.

I personally, believe that it is the most important work in the world. This is a very broad statement: the most important work in the world. Yet this is what I have believed about it for a long time, and after much thinking and re-thinking the matter, it is what I still believe about it. I reason thus: Without religion life is meaningless, and without the things Spiritual Frontiers stands for religion is meaningless. And trying to put meaning into life is certainly the most important work in the world. Not only is it the most important, it is the most urgently-needed work. All delinquency, crime, warfare, brinkmanship, and the other horrors that beset us are caused by people whose lives are without sense, direction or purpose. Only religion can put meaning into such lives--that is, only vital religion, the kind of religion Spiritual Frontiers is trying to reawaken in the churches."

"I am happy to be associated with you in this most important work in the world."

We were going to add a suggestion to Mr. Wilson's words, but somehow it doesn't seem appropriate. We simply hope that in our expansion efforts we can be worthy of leading others who may share this gentlemen's convictions about the importance and urgency of our work.